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PORTO RICO.

*Report from Ponce.*PONCE, P. R., *May 14, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended May 12, 1900. Nothing of interest has occurred in shipping since my last report. On account of the unusually large death rate during the last few weeks in this city, the city physicians held a meeting at the office of the alcalde to consider the cause and remedy. I was present by invitation. The principal cause assigned was the great influx of paupers and sick who come from all over the island. A number of preventive measures were discussed, but no definite action was taken.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SAN SALVADOR.

*Yellow fever in city of San Salvador.*WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 23, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose for your information copies of dispatches from the consul of the United States at San Salvador in regard to an epidemic of yellow fever at that place.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure No. 405.]

SAN SALVADOR, *April 11, 1900.*

SIR: Since cabling to the Department on the 8th instant, that yellow fever was epidemic in San Salvador, events are transpiring that fully sustain that position. To-day there are 18 cases in the pesthouse and 20 known cases are being treated outside. How many more there exist can not be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, owing to the fact that all cases are not reported, due to the severity of the law, which empowers the police force to remove the patient at once to the pesthouse. The number that is cured there is very small, and gives good grounds for believing that the person who enters its portals bids farewell to all hopes of recovery, so that if the disease does not kill, fears will certainly do it. I can not at this time give the rate of mortality. Many persons are leaving the city on account of the disease, which has begun its deadly work at a much earlier period than usual. The epidemic is not general and is at present confined to San Salvador. No foreigner has so far been attacked. It seems to be confined to natives of Central America.

Respectfully,

JOHN JENKINS,
United States Consul.

Hon. THIRD ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure No. 407.]

SAN SALVADOR, *April 23, 1900.*

SIR: In my No. 405 of the 11th instant, I informed the Department of State of the prevalence of yellow fever in San Salvador. I have this day made a personal investigation for the purpose of making a further report on the subject, with the following results: There is not a single case under treatment at the lazaretto (pesthouse); the artillery barracks, whose sanitary conditions have always been a menace to the rest of the city, is free from any case of yellow fever.

There are, however, several cases under treatment in private houses. My informants are doctors. That there is a very marked improvement in the present conditions compared with what they were fifteen days ago is noticeable.

Respectfully,

JOHN JENKINS,
United States Consul.

Hon. THIRD ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.